

END THE UNFAIR PENALTY ON DISABLED VETERANS!

The Concurrent Receipt Problem

- Concurrent receipt would allow military retirees to receive Department of Defense retirement income and Veterans Affairs (VA) disability income simultaneously.
- Currently, most military retirees' retirement checks are offset by the amount of VA disability income they are entitled to.
 - ➤ For instance, a veteran may be entitled to \$1,000 a month in military retirement and \$300 a month in VA disability.
 - ➤ Under current law, the amount of the disability payment is subtracted from the veteran's retirement, leaving the veteran with a check for \$700 in retirement and \$300 in VA disability.

House Republicans – Achieving a Solution

- House Republicans vowed to end the unfair penalty on disabled veterans, and have worked tirelessly to find a solution to the concurrent receipt problem.
- House Republicans have a plan that will restore full concurrent receipt to all military retirees* with with Purple Heart or combat-related disability (*Military retirees are veterans who served a full twenty-year career in the military), including National Guardsmen and Reservists.
- The proposal will also provide full concurrent receipt for the remaining military retirees who are the most severely disabled (50% disabled and above). The benefit will be phased in over 10 years.
- The concurrent receipt plan will be included in the conference report of the Department of Defense Authorization bill.

House Republicans – Better Health Care For Veterans

- The current proposal will establish a bipartisan commission comprised of 13 members over half of whom will be highly decorated combat veterans appointed by Congressional leaders and the White House.
- Under the bipartisan commission, for the first time since 1946, there will be a top-to-bottom review of the disability system.
- The commission's goal is to review and make recommendations on the disability system with the ultimate goal of ensuring appropriate benefits are provided to those who have served our country so valiantly.

Details of the House Republican Proposal

• In addition to the establishment of a commission to review the VA disability system, House Republicans propose the following:

Purple Heart

➤ The House plan continues to provide FULL CONCURRENT RECEIPT to ALL PURPLE HEART VETERANS who are retired after 20 years and who have a VA disability rating of 10% – 100%.

Combat-Related Special Compensation

- ➤ Under current law, combat-related special compensation (CRSC) veterans 60% disabled and above have full concurrent receipt through the Republicans' Purple Heart Plus plan for disabilities related to combat situations.
- ➤ The House plan expands FULL CONCURRENT RECEIPT to ALL CRSC veterans with a VA disability rating of 10% 100%.

National Guard and Reservists

- ➤ Very few retired reservists and national guardsmen now qualify under current law for the Purple Heart or CRSC concurrent receipt.
- ➤ The House plan removes this barrier and extends FULL CONCURRENT RECEIPT to ALL RETIRED NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVISTS (10 100% disabled) who are Purple Heart recipients, or who are CRSC qualified.

Remaining Military Retirees

- ➤ Under current law, none of the remaining military retirees receive concurrent receipt.
- ➤ The House plan establishes FULL CONCURRENT RECEIPT to the most disabled military retirees 50% disabled and above (50 100% disabled).